What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for checking a functioning of a computer, the computer, in a normal operating state, accessing a working memory using bus lines, a content of the working memory being able to be influenced by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

diverting an access of the computer, by a switchover device, such that the access is directed to an alternate memory rather than to the working memory; and

executing an auxiliary program in the alternate memory when activated by the computer, the auxiliary program making available information concerning internal operating states of the computer.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of posing a query in the auxiliary program as to which information is of interest to the user.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary program contains program steps that cause the computer to give a content of internal registers and ports to a bus using a write instruction for a certain address.

4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of reading out, by the user, a memory in an address area.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of executing an instruction in an alternate program area for causing the computer to begin processing an analysis program and for activating the auxiliary program.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the alternate program memory contains a first program module and a second program module of greater importance than the first program module, and further comprising the step of writing the instruction into the first program module.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

using an operating system, generating a query as to whether an analysis

of the computer should be undertaken; and

using the operating system, activating an analysis program if the query is answered affirmatively.

8.　　A device for checking a functioning of a computer, comprising:

a readable alternate memory including an auxiliary memory area, the auxiliary memory area containing an analysis program, the analysis program, when activated, supplying information concerning internal states of the computer; and

means for redirecting a connection of the computer from a working memory to the alternate memory.

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